~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

January 23, 1964

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On January 10, 1964 the Commission's General Counsel J. Lee Rankin wrote to James J. Rowley, Chief, United States Secret Service, requesting information concerning steps which have been taken, or which are planned, to improve protection provided the President. Since this is a critical area of national security, I believe it would be prudent, before the Commission receives data about present and future Presidential protection, to establish clearly the procedures for the use to be made of such data and for recommendations made thereon.

Much of the material on this subject is highly classified. Publication of detailed description of current procedures or of recommendations pointing out the shortcomings of such procedures would, of course, materially increase the danger to the President. I understand that those on the Commission and its staff having access to the material will qualify for and receive appropriate security clearances. I would further suggest that access to this type of material be limited to those staff members actually participating in this phase of the Commission's activities. I would further suggest that no publicity be given to this portion of the Commission's activities and that any recommendations or comments which the Commission may care to make be classified as appropriate and made directly to the agency or agencies concerned or to the President.

I should like to say that in my view the Commission could perform a very useful service to the President and the country by reviewing the procedures in this area. However, since the terms of the Executive Order do not make it entirely clear how far the Commission's responsibilities extend, I should like to discuss this matter with the President and would appreciate your advice as to whether my suggestions as to the Commission's participation are acceptable.

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CLASSIFICATION CANCELED
By authority of Treas. Dept. ltr. 7/31/73
Name and title of
Date 6/22/73

R73-COR. 10

For your information, I am enclosing a copy of my memorandum dated December 20, 1963, requesting Chief Rowley to initiate a review of current procedures.

Sincerely yours,

Douglas Dillon

The Honorable
Earl Warren
Chairman, President's Commission
on the Assassination of President Kennedy
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.
Washington, D. C. 20002

Enclosure

DECLASSIFICATION CANCELED
Authority of Treas. Dept ltr. of 5/31/73
Name and title of person making the change
mng
Date 6/22/73
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R73-COR: 10